

To: nhaskett@blm.gov[nhaskett@blm.gov]; stryon@blm.gov[stryon@blm.gov]
From: Cally Younger
Sent: 2017-12-04T17:31:51-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Presidential Proclamation Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument
Received: 2017-12-04T17:32:04-05:00

Cally Younger | Counsel
Office of the Director
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
Direct: 202-208-3027
Cell: 202-313-8394



Begin forwarded message:

From: Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>
Date: December 4, 2017 at 4:16:01 PM EST
To: cyounger@blm.gov
Subject: Fwd: Presidential Proclamation Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Richardson <mjrichardson@blm.gov>
Date: December 4, 2017 at 2:12:58 PM MST
To: Edwin Roberson <eroberso@blm.gov>, Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>, Megan Crandall <mcrandal@blm.gov>, Ryan Sutherland <rrsutherland@blm.gov>, Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>, aginn@blm.gov
Subject: Fwd: Presidential Proclamation Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Date: December 4, 2017 at 2:09:56 PM MST
To: mjrichardson@blm.gov
Subject: Fwd: Presidential Proclamation Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument

Heather Swift
Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

From: White House Press Office
<whitehouse-noreply@messages.whitehouse.gov>
Date: December 4, 2017 at 2:06:41 PM MST
To: <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Presidential Proclamation Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument
Reply-To: <whitehouse-noreply@messages.whitehouse.gov>

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 4, 2017
MODIFYING THE BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

In Proclamation 9558 of December 28, 2016, and exercising his authority under section 320301 of title 54, United States

Code (the "Antiquities Act"), President Barack Obama established the Bears Ears National Monument in the State of Utah, reserving approximately 1.35 million acres of Federal lands for the protection and management of objects of historic and scientific interest identified therein. The monument is managed jointly by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Department of Agriculture's United States Forest Service (USFS). This proclamation makes certain modifications to the monument.

Proclamation 9558 identifies a long list of objects of historic or scientific interest. It describes cultural resources such as ancient cliff dwellings (including the Moon House and Doll House Ruins), Moki Steps, Native American ceremonial tools and projectile points, remains of single family dwellings, granaries, kivas, towers, large villages, rock shelters, and a prehistoric road system, as well as petroglyphs, pictographs, and recent rock art left by the Ute, Navajo, Paiute peoples. It also identifies other types of historic objects, such as remnants of Native American sheep herding, farming operations and early engineering by pioneers and settlers, including smoothed sections of rock, dugways, hideouts, cabins, corrals, trails, and inscriptions carved into rock such as the Hole in the Rock and Outlaw Trails. It also describes landscape features such as the Bears Ears, Comb Ridge, Cedar Mesa, the Valley of the Gods, the Abajo Mountains, and the Juan River, and paleontological resources such as the fossil remains of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals, as well as dinosaur trackways and traces of other terrestrial animals. Finally, it identifies several species, including animals like the porcupine, badger, and coyote; birds like the red tailed hawk, Mexican spotted owl, American kestrel, and turkey vulture; and plants such as the Fremont cottonwood, Abajo daisy, western sandbar willow, and boxelder.

The Antiquities Act requires that any reservation of part of a monument be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects of historic and scientific interest to be protected. Determining the appropriate protective area involves examination of a number of factors including the uniqueness and nature of the objects, the need for the needed protection, and the protection provided by other laws.

Some of the objects Proclamation 9558 identifies are unique to the monument, and some of the particular examples of these objects within the monument are not of significant scientific or historic interest. Moreover, many of the objects

Proclamation 9558 identifies areas not under threat of damage or destruction before designation such that they required a reservation of land to protect them. In fact, objects designated in Proclamation 9558 were then and still are subject to Federal protections under existing laws and agency management designations. For example, more than 500,000 acres were already being managed to maintain, enhance, or protect their roadless character before they were designated as part of a national monument. Specifically, the BLM manages approximately 380,000 acres of lands within the existing monument as Wilderness Areas, which the BLM is required by law to manage so as not to impair their suitability for future congressional designation as Wilderness. On lands managed by the USFS, 46,348 acres are part of the congressionally designated Dark Canyon Wilderness, which, under the 1964 Wilderness Act, 16 U.S.C. 1131-1136, the Utah Wilderness Act of 1984, Public Law 98-428, the USFS manages so as to maintain or enhance its wilderness character. Approximately 89,396 acres of the USFS lands are also included in 8 inventoried roadless areas, which are managed under the 2001 Roadless Rule so as to protect their wilderness character.

A host of laws enacted after the Antiquities Act provide specific protection for archaeological, historic, cultural, paleontological, and plant and animal resources and give authority to the BLM and USFS to condition permitted activities on Federal lands, whether within or outside a monument. These laws include the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 470aa-470mm), National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 668-668d, Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*, Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988, 16 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.*, Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 16 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 U.S.C. 712, National Forest Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1600 *et seq.*, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, 25 U.S.C. 3001 *et seq.*, and Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470aaa-470aaa-11. Of particular note, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act specifically protects archaeological resources from looting or other desecration and imposes criminal penalties for unauthorized excavation, removal, damage, alteration, or defacement of archaeological resources. Federal land management agencies may grant a permit authorizing excavation or removal, but only if undertaken for the purpose of furthering archaeological knowledge. The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act contains very similar provisions protecting paleontological resources. And the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Endangered

Species Act protect migratory birds and listed endangered threatened species and their habitats. Moreover, the BLM USFS were already addressing many of the threats to object identified in Proclamation 9558 in their governing land use before designation of the monument.

Given the nature of the objects identified on the land reserved by Proclamation 9558, the lack of a threat of damage to many of those objects, and the protection of those objects already provided by existing law and government plans, I find that the area of Federal land reserved in Bears Ears National Monument established by Proclamation 9558 is not confined to the smallest area compatible with the protection and management of those objects. The important objects of scientific or historic interest can instead be protected in a smaller and more appropriate reservation of 2 areas: Shash and Indian Creek. Revising the boundaries of the monument to cover these 2 areas will ensure that, in accordance with the Antiquities Act, it is no larger than necessary for the protection and management of the objects to be protected within the monument.

The Shash Jáa area contains the heart of the national monument: the iconic twin buttes known as the Bears Ears that tower 2,000 feet above the surrounding landscape and are considered sacred to the Native American tribes that call the area their ancestral home. Many of the significant objects described by Proclamation 9558 can be found throughout the Shash Jáa area. Ancestral Puebloan occupation of the area began during the Basketmaker II period at least 2,500 years ago, and it is evident behind objects such as pit houses, storage pits, lithic scatters, campsites, rock shelters, pictographs, and baskets, as well as manos and metates for grinding corn. Occupation dating to the Basketmaker III period, from approximately 500 to 750 C.E., is indicated by additional evidence of maize and bean based agriculture, with pottery, bows and arrows, pit houses, kivas, storage structures, and dispersed villages.

New waves of human settlement occurred around 900 C.E. during the Pueblo I period, which gave rise to large villages near Comb Wash and 1050 C.E., when inhabitants from the Pueblo II period began to construct expansive and complex multi family dwellings. Around 1150 C.E., at the dawn of the Pueblo III period, the area's inhabitants increasingly sought shelter in cliff dwellings and left behind evidence of an era of unrest. Several centuries later, the Paiute, and Navajo came to occupy the area.

East of the Bears Ears is Arch Canyon, within which paleontologists have found numerous fossils from the Permian and Upper Permian eras. Cliff dwellings are hidden throughout the canyon, and the mouth of the canyon holds the fabled Arch ruin, which spans the Pueblo II and III periods and contains pictographs and petroglyphs ranging from the Archaic to the historic periods.

Just south of Arch Canyon are the north and south fork of Mule Canyon. Five hundred feet deep, 5 miles long, and defined with alternating layers of red and white sandstone, these striking canyons contain shelter cliff dwellings and other archaeological sites, including the scenic and accessible On Fire Ruin, which includes differing masonry styles that indicate several episodes of construction and use.

Perched high on the open tablelands above the south fork of Mule Canyon are the Mule Canyon ruins, where visitors can see exposed masonry walls of ancient living quarters and a partially restored kiva. The deep canyons and towering mesas of the Jáa area are full of similar sites, including rock art, remains of single family dwellings, granaries, kivas, towers (including the Cave Towers), and large villages primarily from the Pueblo II and III periods, along with sites from the Basketmaker and Archaic periods.

The Shash Jáa area also includes Comb Ridge, a north trending monocline that originates near the boundary of the La Sal National Forest, ends near the San Juan River, and contains remnants from the region's thousands of years of habitation, including cliff dwellings, granaries, kivas, ceremonial sites, and the Butler Wash ruin, a world famous Ancestral Puebloan ruin with multiple rooms and kivas. Comb Ridge also includes world class examples of ancient rock art such as the Butler Wash Kachina Panel, a wall sized mural of San Juan Anthropomorph figures that dates to the Basketmaker III period and is considered to be one of the Southwest's most important petroglyph panels for understanding the daily life and ritual of the Basketmaker people. Significant fossil sites have also been discovered in Butler Wash.

Just north of upper Butler Wash, the aspen filled White Draw contains a series of alcoves that have sheltered evidence of human habitation for thousands of years, including Cave 7, a site where Richard Wetherill, as part of the Hyde Expedition of 1893, first identified what we know today as the Basketmaker III people. The nearby Milk Ranch Point is home to a rich

concentration of kivas, granaries, dwellings, and other structures that Pueblo I farmers used this area to cultivate corn, beans, and squash.

The Shash Jáa area also contains the Comb Ridge Fossil Site, which includes a trackway created by a giant arthropod (*Diplichnites cuithensis*), the first recorded instance of a fossilized trackway in Utah. Also, the diverse landscape of the Shash Jáa area provides habitat for the vast majority of plant and animal species described by Proclamation 9558.

Finally, the Shash Jáa area as described on the accompanying map includes 2 non contiguous parcels of land that encompass the Moon House Ruin, an example of iconic Pueblo-decorated architecture, which was likely the last occupied site on the mesa, as well as Doll House Ruin, a fully intact and well-preserved single room granary that is associated with an extensive agricultural area on the mesa top. These significant ruins are important examples of cultural resource objects that should remain within the monument's boundaries.

The Indian Creek area likewise contains objects of significance described in Proclamation 9558. At its center is the broad Indian Creek Canyon, which is characterized by red cliffs and spires of exposed and eroded layers of Navajo, Kayenta, Wingate, and Cedar Mesa sandstone, including the North and South Six Shooter Peaks.

Also located within the Indian Creek area is the Canyonlands Research Center. Spanning lands managed by the National Park Service, BLM, USFS, and private landowners, this unique partnership works to increase our understanding of the complex natural systems on the landscape, providing their custodians information they need to adapt to the challenges of a changing Colorado Plateau.

Newspaper Rock, a popular attraction in the Indian Creek area, is a roadside rock art panel that has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1976. This site displays a significant concentration of rock art from multiple periods, etched into Wingate sandstone. The older art is attributed to the Ancestral Puebloan people who inhabited the region for 2,000 years, while the more recent rock art is attributed to the Ute people who still live in the Four Corners area.

In addition to Newspaper Rock, the Indian Creek area contains numerous other significant rock art sites, including

distinctive and well preserved petroglyphs in Shay Canyon. The area also provides opportunities for cultural and scientific research and paleontological study. Dinosaur tracks in the bottom of the Shay Canyon stream bed are a unique visual record of the area's distant past. Additional paleontological resources can be found throughout the Indian Creek area, including vertebrate and invertebrate fossils, primarily in the Chinle Formation. The Indian Creek area also includes 2 prominent mesas, Bridger Jack Mesa and Lavender Mesa, which are home to relict plant communities, predominantly composed of pinyon juniper woodland, with small, interspersed sagebrush parks. These exist only on these isolated islands in the desert sea and are generally, unaltered by humans. These mesas provide the opportunity for comparative studies of pinyon-juniper wood and sagebrush communities in other parts of the Colorado Plateau. Additionally, the Indian Creek area includes the exposed Chinle Formation, known for abundant fossilized fauna, including pelecypods, gastropods, arthropods, fishes, amphibians, and reptiles (including dinosaurs). Finally, the area is well known for vertebrate trackways, including tetrapod footprints.

Some of the existing monument's objects, or certain elements of those objects, are not within the monument's revised boundaries because they are adequately protected by existing designation, agency policy, or governing land use plans. For example, although the modified boundaries do not include the Juan River or the Valley of the Gods, both of those areas are protected by existing administratively designated Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Plant and animal species such as the bighorn sheep, the Kachina daisy, the Utah night lizard, and the *Eucosma navajoensis* moth are protected by the Endangered Species Act and existing land use plans and policies protecting special-status species. Additionally, some of the range of a species falls within existing Wilderness Areas and Wilderness Study Areas. Finally, although Hideout Canyon is likewise included within the modified boundaries, it is generally not threatened and is partially within a Wilderness Study Area.

The areas described above are the smallest compatible with the protection of the important objects identified in Proclamation 9558. The modification of the Bears Ears National Monument will maintain and protect those objects and preserve the area's cultural, scientific, and historic legacy.

WHEREAS, Proclamation 9558 of December 28, 2016, designates the Bears Ears National Monument in the State of Utah and

reserved approximately 1.35 million acres of Federal lands the care and management of the Bears Ears buttes and other objects of historic and scientific interest identified the and

WHEREAS, many of the objects identified by Proclamati are otherwise protected by Federal law; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to modify the boundaries of the monument to exclude from its designation reservation approximately 1,150,860 acres of land that I f unnecessary for the care and management of the objects to protected within the monument; and

WHEREAS, the boundaries of the monument reservation s therefore be reduced to the smallest area compatible with protection of the objects of scientific or historic intere described above in this proclamation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by section 320301 of title 54, United States Code, hereby prc that the boundaries of the Bears Ears National Monument ar hereby modified and reduced to those lands and interests i owned or controlled by the Federal Government within the boundaries described on the accompanying map, which is att to and forms a part of this proclamation. I hereby furthe proclaim that the modified monument areas identified on t accompanying map shall be known as the Indian Creek and Sh units of the monument, the latter of which shall include t House and Doll House Ruins. These reserved Federal lands interests in lands cumulatively encompass approximately 20 acres. The boundaries described on the accompanying map a confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper c management of the objects to be protected. Any lands rese Proclamation 9558 not within the boundaries identified on accompanying map are hereby excluded from the monument.

At 9:00 a.m., eastern standard time, on the date that days after the date of this proclamation, subject to valic existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, a requirements of applicable law, the public and National Fc System lands excluded from the monument reservation shall to:

- (1) entry, location, selection, sale, or other disposition under the public land laws and laws applicable to the U.S. Forest Service;

(2) disposition under all laws relating to mine geothermal leasing; and

(3) location, entry, and patent under the mineral

Appropriation of lands under the mining laws before the time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempt to appropriate, including attempted adverse possession under U.S.C. 38, shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be construed to remove any lands from the Manti La Sal National Forest or to otherwise revoke, modify, or affect any withdrawal, reservation, or appropriation, other than the one created by Proclamation

Nothing in this proclamation shall change the management of the areas designated and reserved by Proclamation 9558 that remain part of the monument in accordance with the terms of this proclamation, except as provided by the following 4 paragraphs.

In recognition of the importance of tribal participation in the care and management of the objects identified above, and to ensure that management decisions affecting the monument reflect tribal expertise and traditional and historical knowledge, Proclamation 9558 established a Commission to provide guidance and recommendations on the development and implementation of management plans and on management of the monument, and to partner with Federal agencies by making continuing contributions to inform decisions regarding the management of the monument in order to ensure that the full range of tribal expertise and traditional historical knowledge is included in such guidance and recommendations. Paragraph 29 of Proclamation 9558 is hereby revised to provide that the Bears Ears Commission shall be known as the Shash Jáa Commission, shall apply only to the Shash Jáa unit as described herein, and shall also include the elected officer of the San Juan County Commission representing Dixie, acting in that officer's official capacity.

Proclamation 9558 is hereby revised to clarify that, in preparation of the transportation plan required by paragraph 29 thereof, the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture shall allow motorized and non-mechanized vehicle use on roads and trails designated for such use immediately before the issuance

Proclamation 9558 and maintain roads and trails for such i

Paragraph 35 of Proclamation 9558 governing livestock grazing in the monument is hereby revised to read as follows: "Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to affect authorizations for livestock grazing, or administration thereof, on Federal lands within the monument. Livestock grazing within the monument shall continue to be governed by laws and regulations other than this proclamation."

Proclamation 9558 is amended to clarify that, consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above, the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture may authorize ecological restoration and active vegetation management activities in the monument.

If any provision of this proclamation, including its application to a particular parcel of land, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this proclamation and its application to other parcels of land shall not be affected thereby.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty second.

DONALD J. TRUMP

###

[Unsubscribe](#)

The White House · 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW · Washington DC 20500 · 202-456-1111

